

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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TWO KC MEN SENTENCED FOR BURGLARY OF CREDIT UNIONS, BANK

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Kansas City, Mo., men were sentenced in federal court today for participating in the burglaries of three area financial institutions.

Daniel W. Pitts, 26, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this morning to three years and six months in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered **Pitts** to pay \$336,059 in restitution.

Richard Morse, 26, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Gary A. Fenner this afternoon to three years in federal prison without parole. The court also ordered Morse to pay \$280,325 in restitution.

On Jan. 20, 2004, **Pitts** pleaded guilty to three counts of burglary involving one Kansas City bank and two credit unions. On Jan. 23, 2004, **Morse** also pleaded guilty, admitting that he participated with **Pitts** in the one of those credit union burglaries and well as participating in the burglary of another credit union.

The first burglary took place between July 1 and July 2, 2002. **Pitts** admitted that he entered the Central Communications Credit Union, 2539 Broadway in Kansas City, and stole \$96,744.25.

Pitts and **Morse** both admitted that they entered the United Consumers Credit Union551 Cambridge in Kansas City, between Sept. 13 and Sept. 15, 2002, and stole \$164,473.

Morse also admitted that, between Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 2002, he entered the Cross Roads Credit Union, 4226 Gardner in Kansas City, and stole \$72,400.

The fourth burglary took place on Sept. 5, 2003. **Pitts** admitted that on that day he entered a Commerce Bank at13333 S. Holmes in Kansas City with the intent to steal funds from that bank as well.

Pitts and **Morse** are among five co-defendants who have pleaded guilty to participating in the area bank burglaries. They were indicted by a federal grand jury on Oct. 7, 2003.

- * Aaron E. Rogers, 35, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty on Jan. 15, 2004, to participating in the Central Communications Credit Union, United Consumers Credit Union and Commerce Bank burglaries. His sentencing hearing is scheduled for May 18, 2004.
- * **David S. Adams**, 34, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty on Dec. 11, 2003, to participating in the burglary of the Central Communications Credit Union. His sentencing hearing has not yet been scheduled.
- * Charles E. Miller, 39, of Kansas City, was sentenced on March 10, 2004, to six months in federal prison without parole. On Nov. 12, 2003, Miller pleaded guilty to participating in the burglary of the Commerce Bank on Sept. 5, 2003.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney K. Michael Warner. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States
Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow